

Generation Study Abroad is a new five-year initiative launched by the Institute of International Education in March 2014 to double the number of U.S. college students studying abroad by the end of the decade.



# Generation Study Abroad™

IIE | Opening Minds to the World®

Leading up to IIE's centennial celebration in 2019, **Generation Study Abroad** will reach out to educators at all levels and stakeholders in the public and private sectors. Our aim is to encourage meaningful, innovative action to drive up the number of U.S. students who have the opportunity to gain international experience through academic study abroad programs, as well as internships, service learning and non-credit educational experiences. IIE has committed \$2 million to this initiative over the next five years, and has established a Study Abroad Fund to provide scholarships to college and high school students and grants to institutions.

## Join Generation Study Abroad

In addition to the overall goal of achieving an annual study abroad total of 600,000 students by the end of the decade, Generation Study Abroad has set specific targets for building a coalition.

We seek commitments from:

- 500 institutions who pledge to significantly expand study abroad
- 10 institutions who require study abroad
- 10,000 alumni and students who join the initiative and promote study abroad
- 1,000 high school teachers who pledge to make their students aware of study abroad
- Donors and sponsors who contribute support for study abroad scholarships

## The Challenge

According to *Open Doors* 2013, published by IIE in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, 295,000 American college students studied abroad in 2011/12 for credit and in non-credit programs. This represents only about 10% of the 2.6 million students who graduated with associates or baccalaureate degrees. In today's increasingly global workplace, the number is far too low.

Generation Study Abroad seeks to address this shortfall by bringing employers, governments, associations, and others together to build on current best practices and find new ways to extend study abroad opportunities to hundreds of thousands of college students who are not currently taking part in study abroad. International experience is now one of the most important components of a 21st century resume. Our goal is to change the paradigm so that study abroad is considered an essential part of a college education.

## Working Together Toward a Solution

Study abroad has always been central to IIE's mission and work, from our early days of helping to create the very first junior year abroad programs. We publish the IIEPassport directories of study abroad programs and funding opportunities, and partner with sponsors and donors on programs that help more than 5,000 students each year to have an educational experience overseas.

Building on nearly 100 years of commitment to study abroad, IIE will lead the Generation Study Abroad coalition in raising awareness of the need for students to gain language and cultural skills, identifying and breaking down barriers hindering students from studying abroad, sharing strategies and best practices to increase study abroad, and mobilizing additional financial resources. In addition to significantly expanding study abroad, the campaign will encourage and track campus activities that expand diversity in race and ethnicity, academic disciplines, and gender.

Find out more at [www.generationstudyabroad.org](http://www.generationstudyabroad.org)

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